

Geocaching on the Wayne

National Forest



Geocaching is a kind of treasure hunt growing in popularity nation-wide. The objective of geocaching is to have participants hide a box of items or “cache” in a designated location, log the location with a GPS unit, and post the location coordinates on the internet. Participants may download coordinates from internet sites onto their GPS unit and search for the cache of items. Upon the discovery of the cache, participants may take an item and replace it with a new item and then log a response online about the cache.

To help us manage this recreation use and minimize impacts to natural resources and public health and safety, a list of guidelines has been developed.

Geocaching is allowed with the following restrictions:

- A special-use authorization for any geocaching activity other than a virtual geocache site is required. A fee will be charged. Contact your local Forest Service office.
- Use of motorized vehicles off roads or ATV trails to access geocache sites is prohibited.
- Explosives, flammable materials, drugs, and other items that may pose a public health or safety risk are prohibited. A list of prohibited geocache materials will be included in the special use authorization.

- Geocaching is prohibited in developed recreation sites, heritage resource sites, research natural areas, special areas, and candidate areas.

- Allow no soil disturbance on the Forest for geocache placement. Caches must be covered with leaves or woody debris if the geocacher chooses to screen the cache at the site.

- To minimize resource impacts, geocachers must remove the cache if the site receives a large number of visits by others, as evidenced by a well-worn trail or path.

- After one year, regardless of site activity, geocaches must be moved to a new location or removed. A new special-use permit must be requested if relocated on the Forest.

For more information:

Athens Ranger District
13700 U.S. Highway 33
Nelsonville, OH 45764
740-753-0101

Ironton Ranger District
6518 S.R. 93
Pedro, OH 45659
740-534-6500

Marietta Unit/Athens District
27515 State Route 7
Marietta, OH 45750
740-373-9055

Visit our website at: www.fs.usda.gov/wayne

Wayne NF offices are open M-F, 8 am to 4:30 pm



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